



Every Great Father Jimmy Evans

Focus The role of a husband is to be Christ-like. This requires a specific goal to be more than a good husband and father but to imitate how Christ loved the Church and served as prophet, priest, and king.

Fun Have you ever taken a “stay-cation?” What did you do?

Review Key Scriptures: Ephesians 5:23–29, 6:1–4; Deuteronomy 6:4–9; Psalm 103:8–18

1. A man’s wife and children are his glory.

They reflect his character and nature as he reflects the character of the God he chooses. If a man does this correctly, his wife and children will also reflect God’s image. If not done well, this will be evident. Not everything our children do wrong is our fault, but who they ultimately become is dependent on their parents more than anyone else.

2. Anointing represents the offices of prophet, priest, and king.

Jesus fulfilled all three of these positions, and each one is essential in becoming a Christ-like husband and father. Jesus fulfilled the roles of prophet, priest, and king by being guided by the Word of God, showing compassion and interceding, and walking in gentle and humble authority.

3. A prophet is responsible for accurately and faithfully delivering the word of God.

A man who diligently seeks to hear God’s voice and know God’s Word is a benefit to his family. The husband and father is also the doorkeeper of the home. We must be careful that everything we do, think, and allow in our home is consistent with God’s Word.

4. A priest interceded between God and man to solve problems, minister comfort, and reconcile relationships.

A man who sensitively and sacrificially meets his family's needs and helps them deal with spiritual, emotional, relational, and personal issues is fulfilling the role of priest in his home. Children need a priest who loves them, is affectionate with them, ministers to them, and accepts them.

5. A king was appointed by God to rule over the people as His representative.

In the home, a king is a man who is the servant leader. He is the initiator of decision making and problem solving without dominance. Children need a king who brings structure and keeps order in the home.

Group Dynamics Idea Before the summer heats up, enjoy a cookout or picnic together. You can meet at a group member's home, a park, or an outdoor community space. Each person can contribute a part of the meal, or you can each bring your own.

Discuss

1. Read 1 Corinthians 11:7 and Proverbs 17:6. What do these two passages say about glory? If others are reflecting our behavior, how does this impact the choices we make?
2. Pastor Jimmy shared a study showing a link between atheism and broken relationships with fathers. Take time as a group to pray for healing and forgiveness for father wounds. Discuss the differences between earthly fathers' behaviors and God's behavior.
3. Jesus is the example of what it looks like to be prophet, priest, and king. In Matthew 4:4, Jesus tells us what is most important to guide our lives. What is it? In what ways did Jesus live out this truth and show Himself to be a prophet? Name several ways Jesus showed His authority as our priest and king.
4. These three roles are necessary for fatherhood. According to Ephesians 5:26–27 and Deuteronomy 6:4–9, what is the responsibility of the father as prophet in the home?
5. What are the character traits of God found in Psalm 103:8–18? How can we model these same qualities to those we love?

6. As a king in the home, we must be careful to observe Ephesians 6:4. What ways can we be intentional to grow in relationship with our family?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- To be a great father, reflect the roles of prophet, priest, and king that Jesus demonstrated in the Bible.
- Parents are responsible for instructing their children in God's Word diligently, pastoring their children, and providing structure and order.
- If you find that you lack in any of these areas, admit your weakness, forgive your father and break family iniquities, submit to the Holy Spirit daily, ask your wife for input to help you grow, and find godly male role models.

Prayer Lord, thank You for Jesus' example of what it means to be a prophet, priest, and king. I need Your daily guidance to be the father and husband You desire and created me to be. Show me where I need to grow and serve my family as Christ served the Church. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Know your resources. Talk with your section leader to learn what Gateway offers in terms of education, serving, outreach, and care. While you can minister to some needs and create space to grow, don't feel like you need to do it all on your own. Check out gatewaypeople.com for helpful information on Gateway's ministries.